



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R2-ES-2023-N043; FXES11130200000-234-FF02ENEH00]

Endangered Wildlife; Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications for permits to conduct activities intended to recover and enhance endangered species survival. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) prohibits certain activities that may impact endangered species, unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The ESA also requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

DATES: To ensure consideration, please submit your written comments by **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]**.

ADDRESSES: *Document availability:* Request documents from the contact in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Comment submission: Submit comments by email to fw2_te_permits@fws.gov.

Please specify the permit application you are interested in by number (e.g., Permit Record No. PER1234567).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marty Tuegel, Supervisor, Environmental Review Division, by phone at 505-248-6651, or via email at marty_tuegel@fws.gov. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the

relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), prohibits activities that constitute take of listed species unless a Federal permit is issued that allows such activity. The ESA's definition of "take" includes hunting, shooting, harming, wounding, or killing, and also such activities as pursuing, harassing, trapping, capturing, or collecting.

The ESA and our implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at title 50, part 17, provide for issuing such permits and require that we invite public comment before issuing permits for activities involving listed species.

A recovery permit we issue under the ESA, section 10(a)(1)(A), authorizes the permittee to conduct activities with endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes that promote recovery or enhance the species' propagation or survival. These activities often include such prohibited actions as capture and collection. Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

Permit Applications Available for Review and Comment

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review by any party who submits a request as specified in **ADDRESSES**. Our release of documents is subject to Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) requirements.

Proposed activities in the following permit requests are for the recovery and enhancement of propagation or survival of the species in the wild. We invite local, State,

Tribal, and Federal agencies and the public to submit written data, views, or arguments with respect to these applications. The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to influence agency decisions are those supported by quantitative information or studies. Please refer to the permit record number when submitting comments.

Permit Record Number	Applicant	Species	Location	Activity	Type of Take	Permit Action
PER1906200	Perrine, Ethan; Austin, Texas	Bee Creek Cave harvestman (<i>Texella reddelli</i>), Bone Cave harvestman (<i>Texella reyesi</i>), Cokendolpher Cave harvestman (<i>Texella cokendolpheri</i>), Government Canyon Bat Cave meshweaver (<i>Cicurina vespera</i>), Government Canyon Bat Cave spider (<i>Tayshaneta microps</i>), Madla Cave meshweaver (<i>Cicurina madla</i>), Robber Baron Cave meshweaver (<i>Cicurina baronia</i>), Tooth Cave pseudoscorpion (<i>Tartarocreagris texana</i>), Tooth Cave spider (<i>Tayshaneta myopica</i>), beetle (<i>Rhadine infernalis</i>), beetle (<i>Rhadine exilis</i>), Coffin Cave mold beetle (<i>Batrisodes texanus</i>), Comal Springs riffle beetle (<i>Heterelmis comalensis</i>), Helotes mold beetle (<i>Batrisodes venyivi</i>), Kretschmarr Cave mold beetle (<i>Texamaurops reddelli</i>), Tooth Cave ground beetle (<i>Rhadine persephone</i>), Austin blind salamander (<i>Eurycea waterlooensis</i>),	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, excavation, habitat reintroduction, voucher specimen	Harass, harm, kill	New

		Barton Springs salamander (<i>Eurycea sosorum</i>), Texas blind salamander (<i>Eurycea rathbuni</i>), diminutive amphipod (<i>Gammarus hyalleloides</i>), Peck's cave amphipod (<i>Stygobromus pecki</i>), Pecos amphipod (<i>Gammarus pecos</i>)				
PER1906334	HDR Engineering, Inc.; Austin, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, habitat assessment	Harass, harm	New
PER1906336	Ammerman, Loren; San Angelo, Texas	Mexican long-nosed bat (<i>Leptonycteris nivalis</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, capture, handle, tag, bio-sample	Harass, harm, capture	Renew / Amend
PER1906337	Keller, David; White Rock, New Mexico	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>), Jemez Mountains salamander (<i>Plethodon neomexicanus</i>)	New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys, capture, handle	Harass, harm, capture	Renew
PER1906338	Randklev, Charles; Dallas, Texas	Texas hornshell (<i>Popenaias popeii</i>)	New Mexico, Texas	Presence/absence surveys, capture, handle	Harass, harm, capture	Renew
PER2325256	Geluso, Keith; Kearney, Nebraska	Mexican long-nosed bat (<i>Leptonycteris nivalis</i>), New Mexico meadow jumping mouse (<i>Zapus hudsonius luteus</i>)	Arizona, New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys, capture, handle	Harass, harm, capture	Renew / Amend
PER2182168	Hathcock, Charles; Youngville, New Mexico	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>), Jemez Mountains salamander (<i>Plethodon neomexicanus</i>)	New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys, capture, band, bio-sample	Harass, harm, capture	Renew / Amend

PER2325259	New Mexico Department of Transportation Environmental Bureau; Santa Fe, New Mexico	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>)	New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	Renew
PER1889346	Tschirhart, Kara; San Antonio, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	New
PER1902037	Abeyta, Elisa; Santa Fe, New Mexico	Southwestern willow flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>), Jemez Mountains salamander (<i>Plethodon neomexicanus</i>)	New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	New
PER2208304	Permits West, Inc.; Santa Fe, New Mexico	Lesser prairie chicken (<i>Tympanuchus pallidicinctus</i>)	Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	Amend
PER2325252	Collins, Valerie; San Antonio, Texas	Jaguarundi (<i>Puma yagouaroundi cacomitli</i>), ocelot (<i>Leopardus (=Felis) pardalis</i>), golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>), northern aplomado falcon (<i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i>), Houston toad (<i>Bufo houstonensis</i>), Bee Creek Cave harvestman (<i>Texella reddelli</i>), Bone Cave harvestman (<i>Texella reyesi</i>), Cokendolpher Cave harvestman (<i>Texella cokendolpheri</i>), Government Canyon Bat	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, collect	Harass, harm, kill	Renew

		Cave meshweaver (<i>Cicurina vespera</i>), Government Canyon Bat Cave spider (<i>Tayshaneta microps</i>), Madla Cave meshweaver (<i>Cicurina madla</i>), (Robber Baron Cave meshweaver (<i>Cicurina baronia</i>), Tooth Cave pseudoscorpion (<i>Tartarocreagris texana</i>), Tooth Cave spider (<i>Tayshaneta myopica</i>), beetle (<i>Rhadine infernalis</i>), beetle (<i>Rhadine exilis</i>), Coffin Cave mold beetle (<i>Batrisodes texanus</i>), Helotes mold beetle (<i>Batrisodes venyivi</i>), Kretschmarr Cave mold beetle (<i>Texamaurops reddelli</i>), Tooth Cave ground beetle (<i>Rhadine persephone</i>)				
PER2203837	Olsson, Inc.; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	Lesser prairie chicken (<i>Tympanuchus pallidicinctus</i>)	Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas	Presence/absence surveys, lek surveys	Harass, harm	New
PER2325253	Newgord, Gary; Austin, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler (<i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i>), northern aplomado falcon (<i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i>), red- cockaded woodpecker (<i>Picoides borealis</i>),	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, habitat assessments	Harass, harm	Renew

		Houston toad (<i>Bufo houstonensis</i>)				
PER2182167	Johnson, Kevin; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	Lesser prairie chicken (<i>Tympanuchus pallidicinctus</i>)	Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	New
PER2325254	Renfrow, Jeff; Terlingua, Texas	Texas hornshell (<i>Popenaias popeii</i>)	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, collect	Harass, harm, kill	New
PER2333296	Haverland, Matthew; San Marcos, Texas	Lesser prairie chicken (<i>Tympanuchus pallidicinctus</i>)	New Mexico, Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	Amend
PER2482682	Seiden, Christopher; Yukon, Oklahoma	Lesser prairie chicken (<i>Tympanuchus pallidicinctus</i>)	Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	New
PER2653860	Seff, Jared; Albuquerque, New Mexico	Jemez Mountains salamander (<i>Plethodon neomexicanus</i>)	New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	New

Public Availability of Comments

All comments we receive become part of the public record associated with this action. Requests for copies of comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and Service and Department of the Interior policies and procedures. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Authority

We provide this notice under section 10 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Amy Lueders,
Regional Director, Southwest Region,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2023-11801 Filed: 6/1/2023 8:45 am; Publication Date: 6/2/2023]